

27.(NEW) The method of Claim 20, wherein the audio file comprises at least one recorded user-spoken word associated with one of the email addresses.

REMARKS

Independent Claims 5 and 15 have been amended to better define the invention. It has been made clear that a device of the invention enables the user to store an audio file representative of one of the options through which the user is navigating. New Claims 23-37 have been added to further define the invention. Support for these new Claims in the specification as filed can be found on page 4, 1.27-1.31 and page 7, 1.23-27.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15-17, 19 and 20 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Macor et al (US 5,901,222), Kowalski (US 5,095,503) and Itoh et al (US 6,205,427).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 8 and 12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Macor, Kowalski and Itoh and further in view of Ericsson.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claim 10 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Macor, Kowalski and Itoh in view of Schwelb (US 5,950,123).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 13, 18 and 21 under 35 USC 103(a) over Macor, Kowalski and Itoh and further in view of Ericsson and Microsoft.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 14 and 22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Macor, Kowalski and Itoh in view of Argyroudis (US 5,748,104).

The invention

The invention relates to a device with a user-interface for enabling a user to interact with the device. The device comprises a navigating input for enabling the user to navigate in a set of options. The device also comprises a memory where the user stores an audio file representative of a specific one of the options. The device also comprises a feedback output for providing respective auditory feedback information about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating. The feedback output provides a first type of auditory feedback when the user navigates at a first speed. The first type of auditory feedback comprises a play out of the

audio file. The feedback output provides a second type of auditory feedback when the user navigates at a second different speed. The device further comprises a validating input to enable the user to select the current option based on the feedback.

Macor

Macor discloses a portable telecommunication device that can be completely operated with a manipulatable member (abstract). The manipulatable member may be a trackball or a joystick. A manipulation of the manipulatable member causes information displayed on the information display of the device to change (abstract, col.2, 1.28-30).

Kowalski

Kowalski discloses a cellular telephone controller that provides synthesized voice feedback for directory number confirmation, call status and cellular telephone feature, option and service selection (abstract). The controller comprises a phone switch, a select switch, a scroll-up switch and a scroll-down switch.

Activation of one of the scroll switches steps a location counter through locations zero and ten of the telephone number directory in the cellular telephone and also voices the location number or name such as for example "ONE" or "HOME" (col.2, 1.7-14 and col.4, 1.45-50). Activation of the select switch reads out the telephone number from the memory location indicated by the location counter and also voices the digits or name for the read-out telephone number (col.2, 1.14-18).

Microsoft

On page 9, 1.14-19 of the specification as filed, Applicants discuss a "CD player" software application version 4.0 from Microsoft. Applicants only disclose "Play out processing board 306 has an intro play out mode to play out only the first portion of each track stored. Such an intro mode is known from, e.g., the "CD player" software application, version 4.0 from Microsoft."

Macor neither mentions nor suggests the portable telecommunication device comprising a feedback output for providing an auditory feedback to the user about a respective selectable one

of the options. Macor neither mentions nor suggests a memory for storing an audio file representative of an option. Macor also neither mentions a device comprising a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback comprising a play out of the audio file.

Kowalski discloses voicing the location number or name associated with a location of the telephone directory such as "ONE" or "HOME". Kowalski does not disclose the user storing the audio file voicing the location number or name such as "ONE" or "HOME". Kowalski neither mentions nor discloses the cellular telephone controller comprising a memory that enables the user to store an audio file representative of a specific option. Furthermore Kowalski does not suggest the user storing an audio file voicing a name or location number associated with a location in the telephone directory. On the contrary Kowalski teaches away from the invention and discloses a voice synthesizer generating under control of a microcontroller voiced telephone number digits, location numbers, location names (col.3, l.10-15). Therefore, Kowalski neither teaches nor suggests the device comprising memory enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific option and a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback comprising a play out of the audio file.

In their description of the Microsoft software, Applicants only mentioned an intro mode to play out an introductory portion of each track stored. In the Application, Applicants do not mention that Microsoft software plays a small portion of a song while a user is navigating in a list of song. The intro mode may, for example, consist in playing all introductory portions of all songs of a CD one after the other so that the listener can get a feel of the CD. In this example, the user is passive and is not navigating through the list of songs. Applicants respectfully rebut the Examiner's argument that Applicants describe the Microsoft software playing a small portion of a song (e.g. Introduction) while a user is navigating a list of songs (page 9 of the Office Action). Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner is using hindsight, and more particularly, attributes the detailed description of the invention on page 9, 1.19-27 to the Microsoft software.

In addition, on page 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner argues that "it would be obvious to one skilled in the art to adapt Macor's device/cell-phone for added functionality such that the user can program memory with audio files snippets that get played out as the user navigates through a set of options." The Examiner also states "it would be obvious to one skilled

in the art to adapt Macor's device to include Ericsson's MP3-storing/playing functionality along with software that is similar to Microsoft's play out introduction for increased functionality."

It has already been shown that neither Microsoft (Applicants admission Re Microsoft Software) nor any of the other prior art documents used by the Examiner in his rejection of the Claims shows audio files snippets that get played out as the user navigates through a set of options. Ericsson does not show a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback comprising a play out of the audio file when the user is navigating through the options. In addition, Macor does not suggest providing auditory feedback and it would therefore not have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Macor to include sound, voice or audio feedback since Macor does not give any incentive to do so.

Neither Macor, Itoh, Ericsson, Micorsoft nor Kowalski teaches or suggests the invention as claimed and even if their teachings were to be combined the result would still not be a device of the invention comprising a memory enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific option and a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback comprising a play out of the audio file when the user is navigating through the options at a first speed.

It is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1 and 15 are patentable over the cited prior art. It is also respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-4, 6-7, 9-14, 16-17, 19-27 are patentable over the cited prior art at least based on their dependencies.

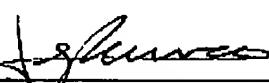
Applicants respectfully submit that they have answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees other than the issue fee to deposit account 14-1270.

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 29, 2002

By 
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Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R 10.9(b)
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APPENDIX A

Version with Markings
to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended Claims 1 and 15:

1.(TWICE AMENDED) An information processing device comprising a user-interface for enabling a user to interact with the device, the [user-interface] device comprising:

- a navigating input for enabling the user to navigate in a set of options;
- a memory enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific one of the options;
- a feedback output to provide respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating, the feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback comprising a play out of the audio file when the user is navigating at a first speed, and a second type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a second different speed;
- a validating input to enable the user to select the current option based on the feedback.

15.(TWICE AMENDED) A method of enabling a user to interact with an information processing device, the method comprising:

- enabling the user to navigate among a set of options;
- enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific one of the options;
- providing respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating and providing a first type of auditory feedback information comprising a play out of the audio file when the user is navigating at a first speed and providing a second type of auditory feedback information when the user is navigating at a second different speed; and
- enabling the user to validate a current one of the options based on the feedback for accessing the selectable one of the options.